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THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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NEWS

Heat waves around the world

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°F °C

120 50

100 40

80 30

60 20

NEWS

Baseball legends honored

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THE WEEK

Junior

Making sense of the world

SPLISH SPLASH

Slide into the super-cool history of water parks p12

THE BEST MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS

DID YOU KNOW?

- One of the earliest water slides appeared in 1906 in New Zealand.
- The world's first modern water park opened in Florida in 1977.
- Today's most visited park, in China, attracts 2 to 3 million people per year.



This week's big news

DID YOU KNOW?

The first modern air-conditioning system was designed in 1902 by American engineer Willis Haviland Carrier.



Cooling off in a fountain in London

Cooling down UK homes



In the UK, summers were historically mild and winters were frigid, so homes there were built to keep heat in, not out. Only about 5% have air-conditioning. As temperatures rise, however, the government has begun requiring that homes be designed with more shade, windows that open wider, and more ceiling fans.

Record heat across US and world

A large percentage of the world's population faced record-breaking heat at the end of July. The extreme weather sparked wildfires and created dangerous conditions for hundreds of millions of people across the globe.

What is happening in the US?

Scorching heat from the East Coast to the Southwest broke or tied 359 records. (A heat wave is a certain number of days above a specific temperature, depending on the location.) Tens of millions of Americans faced excessive heat warnings, which are issued when the heat index (how it really feels outside based on temperature and humidity) is predicted to reach at least 103° F. In Newark, New Jersey, the temperature reached 100° F or higher on five straight days, the longest stretch since recording began in 1931. Boston, Massachusetts, hit 100° F, breaking a record of 98° F set in 1933. In Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma, temperatures rose as high as 115° F.

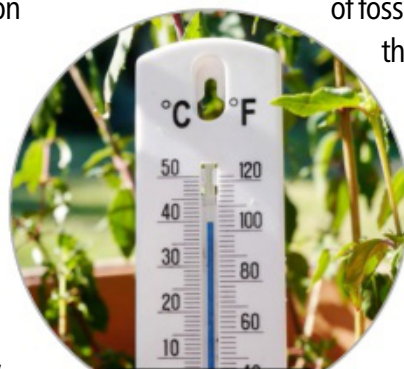
What is happening in other countries?

The heat sparked wildfires and was blamed for more than 2,000 deaths in Spain and Portugal.

England, Scotland, and Wales recorded their highest temperature ever—104° F, shattering the previous record of 101.6° in 2019. The heat caused fires in London, shut down schools and offices, and melted airport runways. In Asia, temperatures hit a record 106° F in Taiwan while Hong Kong saw its highest-ever July temperature of 101° F.

Why is this happening?

Scientists and government leaders said the excessive heat is the result of climate change. These long-term changes in weather patterns are largely due to human activities, such as the use of fossil fuels like coal and gas. Burning those fuels for electricity or to power cars releases greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, which get trapped in the atmosphere and act like a blanket over the planet. Rising temperatures melt Arctic ice and warm ocean waters. "It's human-induced climate change. It's not a natural variation," Kirsty McCabe, a meteorologist at the UK's Royal Meteorological Society, told CBS News.



The temperature in France

How are people being helped?

In Europe, where only about 20% of homes are air-conditioned, the Red Cross checked

on elderly people at home and urged citizens to make sure relatives and neighbors were safe. They delivered water to firefighters and medical crews and helped people displaced by fires. In the US, about 80% of homes have air-conditioning, but people without it were at a higher risk of heat-related illnesses. Many cities offered cooling centers in air-conditioned buses and libraries, extended hours at public pools, and added beds in air-conditioned shelters for unhoused people. New York City officials asked residents to conserve electricity so the power grid would not be overwhelmed.

What will happen next?

As *The Week Junior* went to press, temperatures had begun to drop in Europe. In the US, a cold front was putting an end to the heat wave in the Northeast and Midwest, although temperatures were set to rise in the Pacific Northwest. Scientists called on governments and industries to heed the extreme heat and take steps to combat climate change. In the meantime, cities including Miami, Florida, Los Angeles, California, and Phoenix, Arizona, have created the role of "chief heat officer" to improve awareness among the public of the dangers of high temperatures.



Historic president elected in India

Lawmakers in India elected the nation's first tribal president on July 21. Draupadi Murmu belongs to an Indigenous (first people known to have inhabited a place) tribe called the Santhals, the largest and one of the oldest tribes in India.

Murmu, age 64, is India's youngest president and the second woman to hold the position. She grew up in a poor village, began her career as a teacher, and entered politics in 1997. She recently served as governor of the Jharkhand state.

Her election is inspiring to many people in India because the nation's tribal people have faced a long history of oppression. Their land has been taken, and their religious freedoms have been limited. Today, tribal communities make up less than 10% of India's population.

The president of India is a ceremonial leader, while the prime minister holds executive powers such as control over the military and the economy. Upon taking her oath of office, Murmu said, "My election is proof of the fact that in India, the poor can dream and also fulfill those dreams."



Draupadi Murmu



LONG JOURNEY

Monarch butterflies travel up to 3,000 miles during their yearly migration across North America.

The tiger population is increasing.

Endangered species list updated

On July 21, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) updated its Red List, which tracks the risk of extinction (when a species no longer exists) for 147,517 of the world's plant and animal species. Updated at least twice a year, the list identifies animals as Near Threatened, Vulnerable, Endangered, Critically Endangered, Extinct in the Wild, and Extinct. This helps experts identify which species need the most support.

In a sign of progress, the IUCN counted 3,726 to 5,578 wild tigers worldwide, a 40% increase since 2015. The group said the tiger population has stabilized or increased due to efforts to protect their habitat and engage people who live nearby in saving them. Tigers are still listed as Endangered, but conservation programs are working "and recovery is possible," the IUCN said.

The report also said that for the first time, monarch butterflies have been classified as Endangered. Their numbers dropped between 22% and 72% in the past 10 years, as many of the plants they need for food and shelter, such as milkweed, have been destroyed.

Being added to the list can have a positive effect because it motivates people to find ways to save a species. Experts said planting milkweed and reducing the use of pesticides can help monarchs. "We all have a role to play in making sure this iconic insect makes a full recovery," said Anna Walker, who led the monarch assessment.

It was also reported that all 26 species of a fish called sturgeon are now at a high risk of extinction or already gone. One is now listed as Extinct in the Wild, while another was confirmed to be Extinct.



IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

Sanu Sherpa of Nepal is a top mountaineer — twice over. The 47-year-old set a record by climbing each of the world's 14 tallest peaks, which are all higher than 26,247 feet, twice. "I simply love climbing," he said.



Sanu Sherpa



The new game

MORE WAYS TO PLAY

Wordle, the popular online puzzle in which players guess a five-letter word, will join family game night this fall. Owner *The New York Times* and toy maker Hasbro said they will release a board game version that can be played by four people. "We're beyond thrilled," Hasbro said.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

For the first time since 1999, astronauts from the Russian and European space agencies performed a joint spacewalk outside the International Space Station. On July 21, Oleg Artemyev of Russia and Samantha Cristoforetti of Italy worked together for seven hours to set up scientific equipment.



Oleg Artemyev



Samantha Cristoforetti



National news



DID YOU KNOW?
In 1968, Shirley Chisholm, a Democrat from New York, became the first Black woman elected to the House of Representatives.

Demonstrators at the US Capitol

Facts about the House



The House of Representatives has 435 members from all 50 states. A state's population determines the number of representatives it gets. Representatives are elected every two years, and each one represents about 700,000 people. The House currently has 220 Democrats, 211 Republicans, and four vacant seats.

Lawmakers pass marriage protections

The US House of Representatives (one half of Congress, the branch of government that makes laws) passed a bill on July 19 that would protect the right of people of the same sex and of different races to be legally married. The bill passed 267–157, with 220 Democrats and 47 Republicans voting in favor of the legislation.

What does the bill say?

The bill, called the Respect for Marriage Act, would make same-sex marriage and interracial marriage legal in all 50 states under federal law. It would ensure that the legal definition of marriage includes those who are of any race or sex. If states or communities don't comply with the law, people could take legal action to ensure that their rights are upheld.

Why was the bill written?

The Supreme Court (America's most powerful court of law) has previously ruled in favor of marriage equality. It ruled in 1967 that interracial (between two races) marriage is legal and in 2015 that same-sex marriage is legal. But a recent Supreme Court decision on another issue raised concerns that the justices (judges) currently sitting on the court could overturn the two previous decisions. As a result, lawmakers in the House introduced legislation that would protect all forms of marriage.

How have people reacted?

Nancy Mace, a Republican lawmaker from South Carolina, said she voted for the bill because she believes people should be free to

marry whomever they want. Sarah Kate Ellis, an advocate for marriage equality, said the bill supports the opinion of most Americans. Mike Johnson, a Republican member of the House from Louisiana, said he did not support the bill because he believes same-sex and interracial marriage are not in danger of becoming illegal.

What will happen next?

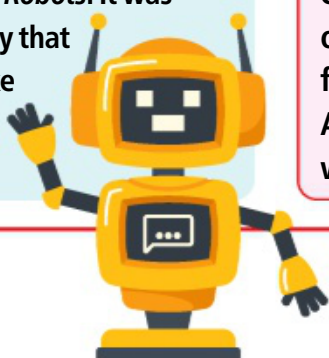
The bill will go to the Senate (the other half of Congress) for a vote. If it passes, it will go to the President to be signed into law. What will happen in the Senate is uncertain. All 50 Democrats and 10 Republicans must vote for it in order for it to pass. As *The Week Junior* went to press, four Republicans indicated they would vote yes and several others said they were undecided.



WORD OF THE WEEK

ROBOT

"Robot" is one of the few English words to have come from the Czech language, in which *robota* means "forced labor." The word was first used in 1921 in a Czech play called *Rossum's Universal Robots*. It was about a fictional company that manufactured human-like machines that carried out tasks for people.



THE WEEK IN HISTORY

August 5, 1914

First electric traffic light installed

On August 5, 1914, the first electric traffic signal was installed at a busy intersection in Cleveland, Ohio. More cars were starting to use the road, along with horse-drawn carriages and streetcars. The signal was operated by an officer who flipped a switch from a booth to turn the light red or green. A buzzer also went off to notify people when a light was about to change.

A modern traffic light





President Joe Biden

President treated for Covid-19

President Joe Biden was diagnosed with Covid-19 on July 21. By July 25, his symptoms, including nasal congestion, were said to be mostly gone. Biden's doctors said he likely avoided serious symptoms because he is vaccinated and has had two booster shots. He was also treated with Paxlovid, a drug that can prevent serious Covid symptoms if it's taken soon after infection. "Keep the faith. It's going to be OK," he said in a video from the White House.



The new number

Update for mental health hotline

A new three-digit emergency number, 988, was made available to the public on July 16. Modeled after 911, the emergency services number, it is meant to be a fast way for people experiencing a mental health crisis to get professional help. "If you are willing to turn to someone in your moment of crisis, 988 will be there," said Xavier Becerra, the US official who oversaw the number's release.



Two fans at Comic-Con

Fans flock to comic convention

For the first time since 2019, Comic-Con—the largest US convention for fans of comics, video games, and science fiction—returned in full force in San Diego, California. More than 135,000 people attended from July 21–24. Attendees, many of whom dressed in costume, saw film trailers and heard authors and actors speak. "I feel more at home when I'm at Comic-Con," said an attendee dressed as Spider-Man.



David Ortiz speaking at the ceremony

TOP HONOR
About 1% of Major League Baseball players have been inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Players enter Baseball Hall of Fame

On July 24, seven former professional baseball players were inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. Being a Hall of Fame member is considered the sport's most prestigious tribute.

The Hall of Fame was founded in 1936 and honors excellence among the game's players, pioneers, managers, and umpires. It is located in Cooperstown because Abner Doubleday is thought to have invented baseball there in 1839.

Three members of the Class of 2022 are living and were honored at an outdoor ceremony attended by tens of thousands of fans. David Ortiz, a designated hitter who won three World Series with the Boston Red Sox, gave a speech in English and Spanish. He is the fourth player from the Dominican Republic to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. "I've been thinking about my life, my career, and most of all, the people who believed in me," he told the crowd, many of whom were waving flags from his home country.



The Hall of Fame's museum has a collection of 40,000 artifacts.

Inductees Jim Kaat and Tony Oliva also spoke. Kaat won 283 games as a pitcher over 25 seasons (1959–1983). After immigrating from Cuba in 1961, Oliva was named Rookie of the Year in 1962 and became an eight-time All-Star.

Four people were inducted posthumously (after their death). Bud Fowler (1858–1913), who made his debut in 1878, is believed to

be the first Black man to play professional, organized baseball. Gil Hodges (1924–1972) was a first baseman who later became a successful manager. Buck O'Neil (1911–2006) made history in 1962 when he became the first Black coach in Major League Baseball. Minnie Miñoso (1925–2015), one of the sport's first Black Latino stars, played in 13 All-Star games during his career.

Counting this year's inductees, there are now 340 members of the Hall of Fame, including 268 former players, 40 pioneers of the game, 22 managers, and 10 umpires.

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Chicken hitches ride, ends up in Vermont's largest city" AP





Around the world



Jonas Vingegaard

France **Danish cyclist wins Tour de France**

On July 24, Jonas Vingegaard, a 25-year-old Danish cyclist, won the Tour de France, the world's most difficult bike race. This is his first time winning the race, beating two-time defending champion Tadej Pogacar, who placed second. Vingegaard is the second Dane ever to win the Tour de France. The race, which began on July 1 and finished in Paris, covered more than 2,000 miles through several countries.



The Espai Corberó

Catalonia, Spain **Town purchases unusual building**

The town of Esplugues de Llobregat in Catalonia, Spain, has purchased Espai Corberó, a building that is also a work of art, for \$3 million. The work is by the sculptor Xavier Corberó, who died in 2017 and was known for his huge public artworks. Espai Corberó has staircases leading to nowhere, empty caverns, and a theater that can seat 250 people. The plan is for the site to be opened to the public.



Mario Draghi

Rome, Italy **Prime minister resigns**

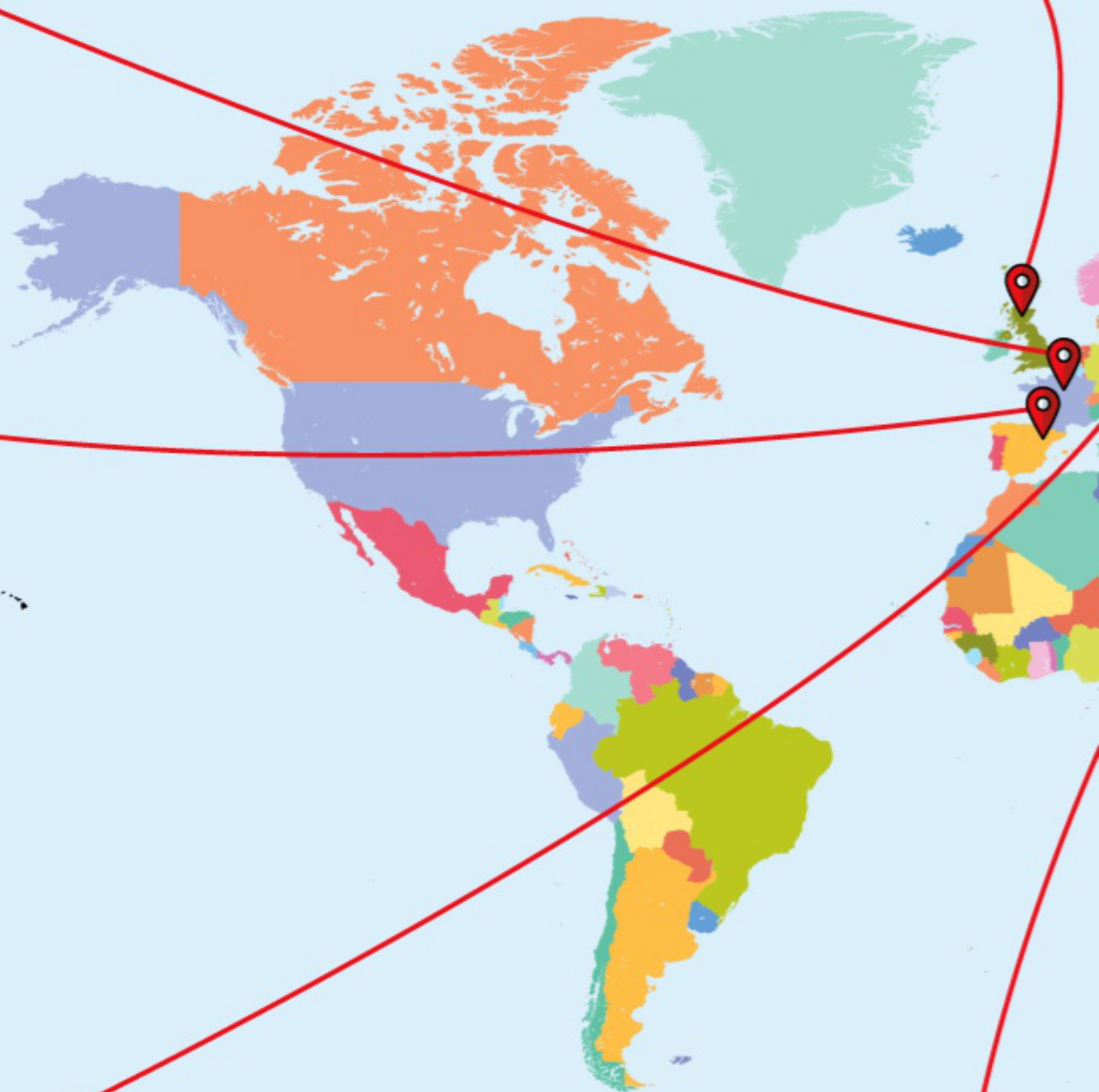
Italy's prime minister, Mario Draghi, has resigned. He came to power last year to lead a government made up of different parties working together. He quit on July 21 after losing the support of other Italian leaders. As a result of his departure, a general election will take place on September 25. Draghi will continue as prime minister until the election.

Scotland, United Kingdom **Rare moth discovered**

A sallow-shoot piercer moth was spotted in Scotland for the first time. A visitor to the Cathkin Marsh Wildlife Reserve noticed the white and gray moth, whose scientific name is *Cydia servillana*. Before the discovery, there had been only 29 recorded sightings of the species, all about 300 miles south. A reserve manager described the discovery as "exciting."



The moth



Cairo, Egypt **Strict rules about taking photos are relaxed**

On July 20, Egypt's government relaxed its ban on taking pictures in public. Previously, tourists and locals needed a permit to take photos of streets and tourist attractions. Now permits are no longer required. However, the law still does not allow people to take photos of children or things that could "damage the country's image." It is hoped that the change will boost tourism in Egypt.

Rules on picture taking have changed.



GETTY IMAGES (4); PATRICK CLEMENT/SCOTTISH WILDLIFE TRUST; GERANUM/SHUTTERSTOCK; COURTESY LIDA XING; ALAMY; GUIDO CANCARINI/AMEL COL-LECCIO BIDITOUS



Desserts at the restaurant

Copenhagen, Denmark **Restaurant takes top honors**

Geranium, a restaurant in Copenhagen, has won the top prize at the World's 50 Best Restaurants awards. It is the second straight year that first place has gone to a restaurant in the Danish capital. Geranium serves meat-free Scandinavian food made with fresh ingredients and is open four days a week to help staff have a good work-life balance.



Supporters of Imran Khan

Punjab, Pakistan **Former leader wins special election**

Pakistan's former prime minister, Imran Khan, has called for an early general election after winning a special local election in the Punjab region. His political party, the PTI, won 15 seats out of 20 in Punjab, while rival party PML-N (the party forming the national government) won four. Some experts said the results are an early indication of what could happen in the general election.



A scientist studies the prints.

Sichuan, China **Dinosaur footprints spotted**

An observant diner eating in the outdoor courtyard of a restaurant in Sichuan province spotted dinosaur footprints on the ground. Scientists confirmed the discovery on July 16 after using a 3D scanner to identify the prints, which are 100 million years old. The footprints belong to two sauropods, which are part of a dinosaur subgroup with long necks and tails and the largest animals ever to walk the Earth.



Cheetahs

Kuno National Park, India **Cheetahs to return after 70 years**

For the first time since 1952, cheetahs will return to the forests of India. There are about 7,000 cheetahs in the world, and they were declared extinct in India 70 years ago. Namibia, which has one of the largest cheetah populations, will send eight of them to Kuno National Park, a cheetah-friendly habitat in central India, in August.

Tehran, Iran **Law proposed to restrict pet ownership**

Iran's parliament (government) could pass a law that further restricts the right to own pets, including dogs, cats, rabbits, and turtles. A law is already in effect that makes walking dogs illegal. Some politicians believe owning pets is a European and North American tradition and does not belong in Iran. Under the proposed law, people can be fined a minimum of \$800 for keeping a pet.



Having pet dogs and cats could be banned.



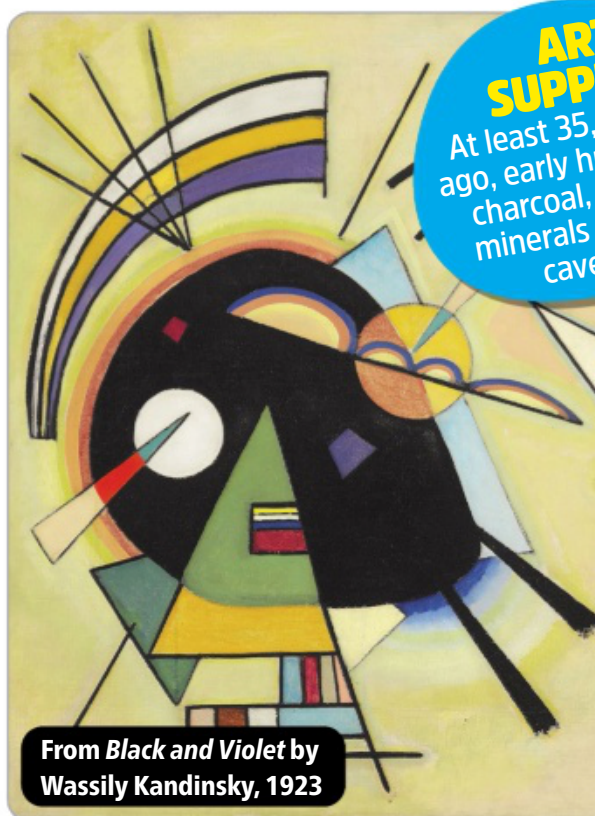
The big debate

Is abstract art better than realistic art?

Some say abstract art expresses emotion, while others say realistic art tells a story.

What you need to know

- Realistic art is a likeness of people, objects, or places that are presented as true to life as possible.
- Abstract art does not portray specific things in the world but uses color, shape, and texture to convey a feeling or an idea.
- The word “abstract” means something that exists as an idea or a thought, not as a physical object.
- Both abstract and realistic art exist in painting, sculpture, drawing, design, and other forms.



From *Black and Violet* by Wassily Kandinsky, 1923



The *Mona Lisa* by Leonardo da Vinci, 1503–1519

People have been creating realistic art for thousands of years. Early humans made cave drawings of animals, ancient Greeks sculpted highly detailed figures, and painters filled canvases with faces and places. In the early 1900s, however, people started to think that kind of art was boring and restrictive. Artists began creating abstract art full of color, squiggly lines, paint splatters, and geometric shapes, which was meant to convey emotions and ideas. To this day, abstract art lovers say it is more exciting and original. But fans of realistic art say it takes more skill to make and is less confusing. What do you think? Is abstract art better than realistic art?

Yes—abstract art is more exciting

Abstract art is more interesting, surprising, and modern because artists aren't bound by rules such as proportion or shading. The point of abstract art is expressing oneself, not just creating something beautiful to look at. Bursts of color or a mix of shapes can be more expressive because they allow the artist to communicate thoughts and ideas they can't get across in realistic art. It takes a lot of skill and imagination to convey these concepts using nothing more than lines and colors. Plus, abstract art lets viewers interpret the work in their own way, which makes it more personal and meaningful for them.

No—realistic art is easier to understand

It takes major skill to accurately paint, sculpt, or draw real things, but abstract art looks like anyone could do it. Realistic art still involves plenty of creativity, though. Just look at the *Mona Lisa*—it's a painting of a person, but she has a mysterious smile that makes viewers wonder what she's feeling. We can learn something from realistic art, too. A painting of laborers in a field, for example, tells us about the conditions of their lives. Plus, realistic art is easy to understand. With abstract art, a viewer might not know what they're seeing or what the artist intended. That means they might think the work means something else entirely.

YES Three reasons why abstract art is better than realistic art

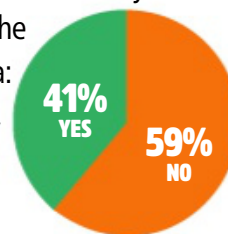
- 1 Abstract art is more exciting and modern because it doesn't limit creativity.
- 2 There are ideas and feelings that can't be conveyed by realistic art. Abstract art is more expressive.
- 3 Viewers can interpret abstract art in many ways, which makes it more personal for them.

NO Three reasons why abstract art is not better than realistic art

- 1 It requires a great deal of skill and precision to create realistic art.
- 2 Realistic art is educational because it communicates information about people and places throughout history.
- 3 Viewers can more easily tell what the work is about, which means they get a sense of what the artist intended.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

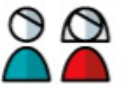
Last week, we asked you if young kids should run errands alone. More than half of you said it's not the greatest idea: 59% said no, while 41% said yes.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, have a parent or guardian visit theweekjunior.com/polls with you so you can vote in our debate. Vote **YES** if you think abstract art is better than realistic art or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.



A historic kickoff

Carson Pickett achieved her dream of playing soccer on the world stage.

On June 28, soccer player Carson Pickett made history when she stepped onto a field in Utah with the US Women's National Team (USWNT) as the team's first player with a limb difference. "I saw the crowd and everyone chanting 'USA,' and I just knew that my biggest dream just came true," Pickett told *Good Morning America* of her history-making moment.

Pickett was born without a left hand and forearm. This can affect her balance and the way she plays soccer. But that has never stopped her from playing the sport that has been a part of her life since age 5. She began playing soccer with her father, a former college soccer player, and credits him for helping her become the player she is today.

She played in college for Florida State University and, in 2016, was drafted into

the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) by the Seattle Reign. Since 2021, she has been a defender for the North Carolina Courage.

Coach Vlatko Andonovski of the USWNT praised her outstanding performance in her debut game, which the US won by a score of 2–0 over Colombia.

Pickett said of the victory, "It's the best feeling I've ever had in my entire life."

As a child, Pickett said she often felt self-conscious about her limb difference. Today, however, she says, "it actually is incredible to be different." She has become a role model for many and wants to be an advocate for others like her. "Let's all try to love ourselves no matter what we look like, and let's all be kind to each other above all else," said Pickett.



Pickett in action



Carson Pickett

DID YOU KNOW?

In the US each year, an estimated 1,900 babies are born with a limb difference.

Running for a cause

Michael Wardian, an ultra-marathoner from Virginia, completed a 61-day run stretching 3,200 miles across the US to raise over \$100,000 for World Vision, a nonprofit that provides families with access to clean drinking water. After decades of planning, he started in San Francisco, California, and ended in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. He ran about 50 miles a day and listened to 35 audiobooks. Wardian told *The Washington Post*, "I'm just so grateful that we could do it for a great cause and change so many people's lives."



Michael Wardian



Ada Limón

Poet laureate named

Ada Limón, author of six books of poetry and host of a podcast dedicated to poetry called *The Slowdown*, has been named the 24th US poet laureate by the Library of Congress. The poet laureate, the official poet of the US, typically serves two back-to-back terms. In response to her selection, Limón said she is "humbled by the opportunity to work in the service of poetry and to amplify poetry's ability to restore our humanity and our relationship to the world around us." She said she hopes to expand access to poetry in public spaces and on social media.

OVERHEARD



"Everyone makes mistakes, so why can't you?"

Big Bird, the iconic *Sesame Street* character, in a tweet referring to the show's 1970s song "Everyone Makes Mistakes"



Birds on the move

A flock of seven European bee-eaters—colorful birds typically found in southern Europe and North Africa—were spotted nesting in the UK in June. Sightings of the “rainbow birds” in locations farther north have been increasing over the past 20 years. Experts have linked this to rising average temperatures.

European bee-eaters



WOW!
Colombia has more than 1,826 species of birds—the highest number of any country on Earth.

A sunbird

Tropical birds pack more color

A new study has shown that tropical birds (those from regions of the world that are warm throughout the year) really are more colorful than birds from other parts of the world. This theory has been suspected for many years but has never been proven.

Scientists from the UK and Hungary looked at more than 24,000 pictures of 4,500 bird specimens from around the world. The photos are kept at the Natural History Museum collection in England. The researchers used computers to measure the color and intensity of different feathers on each bird, producing millions of readings that

could then be processed to get a scientific measurement of how colorful each bird was.

The results showed that birds from West Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Amazon rainforest in South America are nearly one third more colorful than those from other regions of the world. These tropical birds had more intense and varied colors than birds from cooler regions of the northern hemisphere. In addition, the most colorful birds tend to be those that live in densely forested areas. Christopher Cooney from University of Sheffield in the UK, the lead researcher of the study, said, “Even

though this had been a hypothesis [theory] for a long time, direct evidence at this level was surprisingly scarce until now.”

The researchers still don’t know for sure why tropical birds are more colorful than other birds. However, they think that stable temperatures and plentiful food in the warm countries where they live give them a more constant source of energy, which allows them to produce more complex colors. What they eat could also be a factor. Tropical fruits are richer in pigment (coloring) chemicals, which may give the birds brighter feathers.

The study will help researchers identify hot spots of colorful bird life, highlighting habitats that need to be protected in order to help these brilliant species survive.



A lilac breasted roller



PLACE OF THE WEEK

Spring Mountains National Recreation Area, Nevada

The Spring Mountains are a range of mountains that includes Mount Charleston, one of the tallest peaks in Nevada. It reaches more than 11,900 feet high and is covered in bristlecone pine trees. The Spring Mountains are the only place where the Palmer’s chipmunk can be found. Wild horses and burros, or donkeys, roam about freely, and rocky mountain elks, desert tortoises, coyotes, foxes, and bobcats also dwell in or near the mountains. Numerous butterfly species, such as the Mount Charleston blue butterfly, live here as well.



A Palmer's chipmunk



DID YOU KNOW?

A seal's whiskers can detect movement from up to 130 feet away.

Whiskers help seals "see" in the dark.



Seals use whiskers to track prey

Sensitive whiskers provide seals with a super sense that allows them to hunt in complete darkness, according to a new study. Some seal species will dive more than 5,000 feet to hunt in ocean depths where sunlight cannot reach.

Scientists have long suspected that seals use their whiskers to navigate the darkness. Previous tests with captive animals have shown that seals will use their whiskers to find objects when swimming in the dark in pools. However, hunting with whiskers in the wild had not been confirmed—until now.

Researchers at Japan's National Institute of Polar Research and the University of California-Santa Cruz attached harmless cameras to the heads of northern elephant seals and put sensors on their jaws. This allowed them to see how seals adjusted their whiskers and when they swallowed prey.

The cameras showed that the seals did about 80% of their hunting in complete darkness. Seals fold their whiskers back to dive. Once they reach their feeding grounds, they move their whiskers back and forth to sense vibrations (tiny motions) from prey.

Animal of the week

Konik pony



Twelve new Konik pony foals have joined a herd at a nature reserve in the UK. As they graze the reserve, it's hoped that their hoofprints and feces piles will create new habitats for other wildlife.

- **LIFE SPAN:** 25 to 30 years
- **HABITAT:** Wetland, marshland, and woodland
- **SIZE:** About 51 to 55 inches tall
- **DIET:** Vegetation such as grasses
- **FUN FACT:** The word "konik" means "small horse" in Polish.



Good week / Bad week



Galápagos tortoises

Scientists have confirmed that a tortoise in the Galápagos Islands named Fernanda is a "fantastic giant tortoise," a species that had not been seen since 1906 and was thought to be extinct. This gives scientists hope for the species' survival.



Siberian tundra

This flat landscape may vanish by the year 2500 unless greenhouse gas levels are reduced, scientists say. There is also a risk that as the planet heats up and the frozen soil melts, even more greenhouse gases will be released.



"Why do koalas sleep so much?"

Freddy, 11, Connecticut

Marco Wendt

Wildlife ambassador,
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance

Koalas need to sleep a lot to give them time to digest their food. Koalas eat only eucalyptus leaves. Most plant eaters can't tolerate eucalyptus because of certain toxins, but koalas specialize in it! They don't get many calories from this diet, but they save energy by sleeping up to 20 hours each day.



A koala

Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about the San Diego Zoo at sandiegozoowildlifealliance.org.



All about water parks

Splashing into cool

Spectacular slides and lazy river rides have excited thrill seekers for decades.

For adventurous people throughout the world, summer wouldn't be summer without a visit to a water park. Today's parks are packed with exciting attractions, but they started as simple slides.



The first slides used boats.

Beginning with the basics

One of the earliest known water slides appeared at the 1906 International Exhibition in New Zealand. People piled into a small wooden boat and splashed down a ramp onto a lake. Other slides were designed in this "Shoot the Chute" style, but by the 1920s, "water toboggan" slides, which featured wood sleds, became popular. Rides were eventually developed so that people could slide with just their bodies, but it would be years before other water attractions were created.



Wet 'n Wild

The first water parks

In 1962, Lake Dolores opened in California as a water-themed resort with slides, bumper boats, and a slow-moving raft ride known as a "lazy river." Fifteen years later, George Millay created the first modern water park in Orlando, Florida. With wave pools, splash pads, and slides, Wet 'n Wild became the model for water parks worldwide. In 1989, Polynesian Water Park Resort in Wisconsin put up a roof, becoming the country's first indoor water park.



SURF'S UP!
North America's largest wave pool holds 2.75 million gallons of water and can produce waves up to 6 feet tall.

ANIMALS UP CLOSE
At some water parks, guests can tube through aquariums full of stingrays, fish, and sharks.

Water parks attract millions of visitors every year.

Wow-worthy water parks

Water parks all over the globe provide excitement for visitors. But some parks stand apart from the rest for their record-breaking attractions. Here are three examples.



Most visited park

Even though Chimelong Water Park in China is open only during the summer, it has 2 to 3 million visitors a year. Among its top attractions are a "water city" and the world's first SlideWheel, a water slide that rotates like a Ferris wheel.





summer fun



REPEAT RIDES

In 2009, Jens Scherer earned a world record by riding an 1,100-foot water slide at Germany's Galaxy Erding 427 times in one day.



A lazy river

New twists and turns

Park owners continued inventing new adventures for guests, such as bowl slides that drop riders into a circular basin that spins them around, and serpentine slides, which whip riders back and forth along curves. Most of these slides rely on the force of gravity to pull riders downward, but the "water coaster" took it to the next level by adding high-pressure pumps that propel riders along. Lazy rivers also added extras, like waterfalls and rapids. Wave pools, which push water outward in varying patterns to create surfable (or swimmable) waves, were another development. Parks competed to add these features and make them bigger, faster, and more fun. Today, there are about 1,300 water parks in North America alone, bringing in more than \$2 billion a year.



Morgan's Inspiration Island

What's next?

While people flock to water parks around the world, the industry continues to develop more amazing rides and specialized experiences. In 2017, Morgan's Inspiration Island became the first "ultra-accessible" water park designed to include people with disabilities in every part of the park. The latest trends include immersive, story-based designs and multimedia elements, such as audio and virtual reality. According to Aleatha Ezra of the World Waterpark Association, new technology is changing the water park experience as designers create "the rides of tomorrow."

Steepest slide

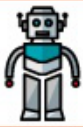
The Kilimanjaro slide at Aldeia das Águas Park Resort in Brazil is named after the tallest mountain in Africa and stands 163 feet high. Riders plunge at a 60-degree angle, reaching speeds of up to 62 miles per hour, before gliding into the pool below.



Tallest water coaster

Schlitterbahn Galveston Island Water Park in Texas is home to Massiv, a water coaster that reaches 81 feet, 6 inches high. Visitors have to climb 123 steps to ride, but they are rewarded with exciting twists through tunnels, a light show, and a triple drop at the end.





A rendering of
Tiangong in orbit

**WHAT'S
IN A NAME?**
The Chinese name for
astronauts, *yuhangyuan*,
means "travelers of
the universe."

Building China's space station

Three astronauts with the Chinese National Space Administration (CNSA) have nearly completed their first two months at the nation's new space station, Tiangong (Chinese for "heavenly palace"). Commander Chen Dong and astronauts Cai Xuzhe and Liu Yang live and work on the station's core module, called Tianhe, as part of the Shenzhou-14 mission.

The astronauts will spend six months aboard Tiangong to help complete construction and setup. They are the third crew to visit the station, which was launched in 2021. So far, the team has performed many experiments, including tests on the water, air, and microorganisms (tiny life forms) inside Tianhe. They have also installed a system to improve air quality aboard the ship, tested spacesuits to be used in future spacewalks, and updated computer systems. The astronauts have been exercising on treadmills and stationary bikes to reduce the effects of microgravity on their bodies.

On July 17, Chen, Cai, and Liu oversaw the departure of Tianzhou Three, an unmanned (without people on board) cargo spacecraft

that had carried supplies to Tiangong. They are now awaiting the arrival of two new laboratory modules (individual sections), which will connect with Tianhe to form a T shape. The first module is set to arrive at the end of July.

China is the third country to build its own space station, after the US and Russia.



Shenzhou-14
taking off in June

Tiangong will be about one fifth the size of the International Space Station—which is run by NASA (the US space agency) and other nations—but it is a major step in China's plans for future space exploration. The station will allow astronauts to study Earth's surface from afar and carry out experiments that rely on weightless conditions or exposure to cold and empty space.

The CNSA hopes to send people to the Moon by 2030, which is not long after NASA's target of a Moon landing in 2025. The CNSA will also launch a mission to take samples from an asteroid (a chunk of ancient space rock) by 2025. Chinese rovers are already exploring the Moon and Mars, and there are plans to send a robot probe to orbit Jupiter in the 2030s.

Will aliens find Earth?

An alien invasion
is unlikely.



Of the millions of planets in our Milky Way galaxy, how many of them might contain hostile alien civilizations? Spanish researcher Alberto Caballero turned to human history to find out. He created a mathematical model based on how often one country has invaded another on Earth. Caballero then applied his model to the thousands of planets that scientists think could be capable of supporting alien life.

Caballero concluded that only four of those planets might have aliens living on them who would want to invade Earth. The chances of this happening, however, are so small that Earth is 100 times more likely to be destroyed by an asteroid than it is to be invaded by aliens.



New park in Madrid will help cool the city

A new plan has been revealed for a park in Madrid, the capital of Spain, that could lower temperatures in the surrounding area by as much as 7.2° F. The park is expected to be completed in 2025. It will include a “wind garden” with tall spiral structures covered in green plants such as ferns and mosses. These plants will capture breezes, cool them down, and move them around the park.

Elsewhere in the park, avenues of trees will create shady areas and special systems will water the plants to reduce temperatures. The park’s designers said that as the park and garden create cooler air, nearby streets should cool down too.

This approach to cooling a city was inspired by ancient techniques in Middle Eastern countries, where cool air was redirected into homes. “The entire park will be an urban forest that will function as an air-conditioning condenser,” said Fernando

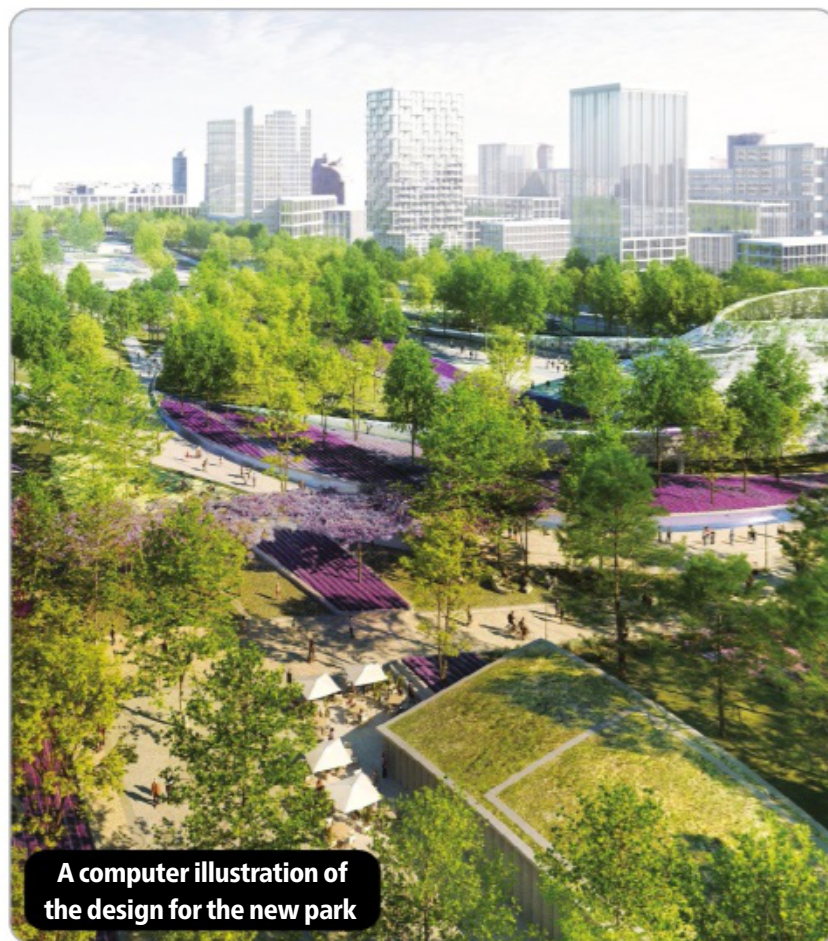
Porras-Isla, one of the park’s designers.

Madrid has gotten hotter in recent years due to climate change (long-term changes in weather patterns largely caused by human activity).

This summer, Spain is enduring some of its worst heat waves in more than 40 years, with temperatures reaching as high as 115° F. Other Spanish cities are also finding creative ways to lower temperatures, adding water fountains and more green and shady areas.

DID YOU KNOW?

The hottest day ever recorded was July 10, 1913, when it was 134° F in Death Valley, California.



A computer illustration of the design for the new park



The bendable robot finger

Robot finger has real human skin

Scientists at the University of Tokyo in Japan created a bendable robotic finger with real human skin. They first soaked it in human skin cells and collagen, a protein that helps make skin strong and stretchable. That created a base layer of skin, known as the dermis.

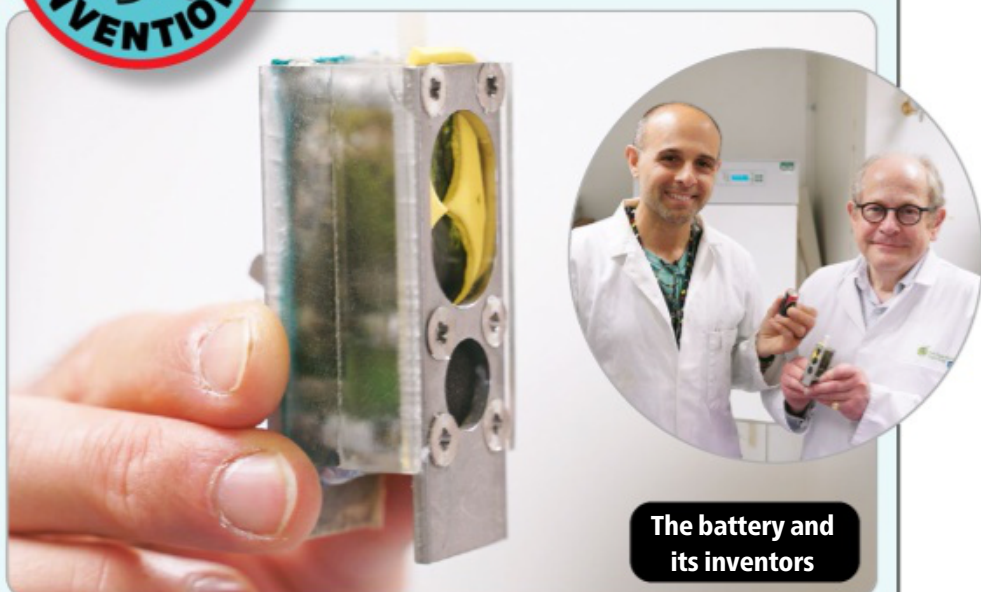
Next, they poured on a liquid containing skin cells to form the outer layer (epidermis). After two weeks, the robotic finger’s skin was about the same thickness as a human’s—0.1

inch. When it was cut and covered with a collagen bandage, the skin healed itself within a week.

Although the lab-grown skin was more realistic than the rubber usually used on robots, it isn’t ready to be used outside a lab. To keep the cells alive, the skin had to soak in a nutrient broth most of the time. The scientists’ goal is to eventually make human-like robots that can interact with people to provide medical care and other services.



A battery powered by light and water



The battery and its inventors

A team of researchers in the U.K. made a battery powered by only light and water. They used algae (a small, plant-like living thing), which draws energy from sunlight. That process, called photosynthesis, created a slight electrical current that could power a tiny computer chip.

With a steady supply of light and water, the battery has run for more than a year with no sign of stopping. The researchers hope this system, which uses common, cheap, and reusable materials, could provide a more sustainable power source than batteries that need replacing.



Photos of the week



Flying high
"Beautiful Wings" by
Takuya Ishiguro of Japan



Full of frogs
"Embryology" by Jaime
Culebras of Spain



JOSE GRANDÍO; ELLEN WOODS; TAKUYA ISHIGURO; BART HEIRWEG; TOM SHILESINGER; JAIME CULEBRAS

Photos of the week



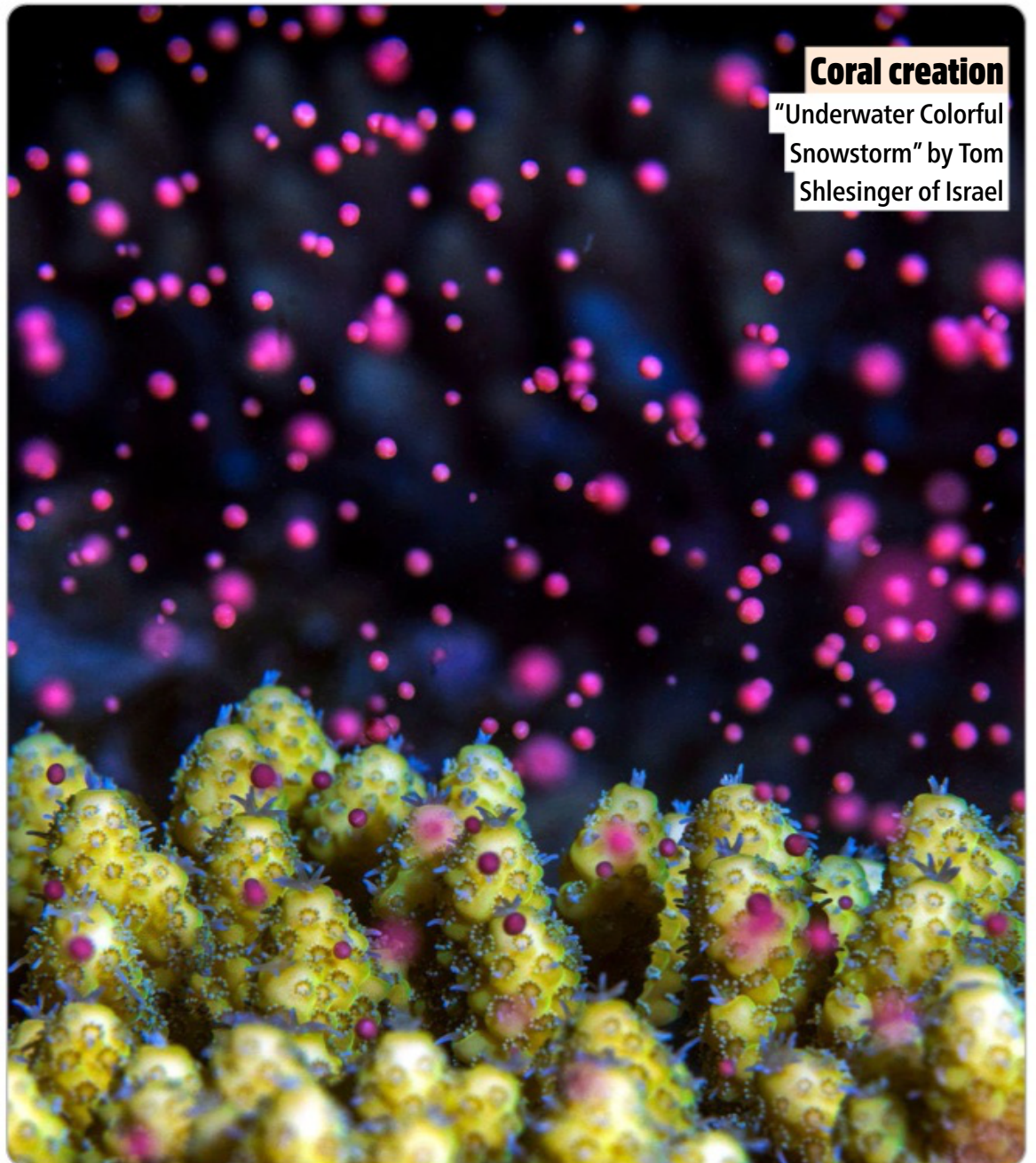
Jumping for joy
"The Stoa's Game" by
Jose Grandío of Spain



Watercolor sky
"Ice Cream Cake" by
Bart Heirweg of Belgium



In full bloom
"Beauty Is Ephemeral"
by Ellen Woods of the US



Coral creation
"Underwater Colorful
Snowstorm" by Tom
Shlesinger of Israel



Sports



DID YOU KNOW?

The city of Eugene, Oregon, is nicknamed TrackTown USA.

The US 4 x 400-meter relay team

Legendary location



The event was held at Historic Hayward Field at the University of Oregon. Built in 1919 and named after the college's track and field coach, Bill Hayward, the field has been the site of several Olympic Trials, as well as college and US championships.

US track and field stars shine at Worlds

The World Athletics Championships was held in Eugene, Oregon, from July 15 through July 24. The event, which takes place every two years, brought together more than 1,700 track and field athletes from 179 countries (plus an Athlete Refugee Team). The US had never hosted it before.

Team USA won 33 medals, including 13 golds. It was the most total medals ever won at Worlds. The other top teams were Ethiopia, Jamaica, and Kenya, which earned 10 medals each.

The event was filled with thrilling races and historic moments. On the final day, Athing Mu became the first American woman to win the 800-meter race at Worlds. She beat Britain's Keely

Hodgkinson by .08 seconds. The day before, the US women's 4 x 100-meter relay beat Jamaica, the reigning champions. The Americans won by .04 seconds to claim the gold for the first time in the event since 2017. Team USA's

Sydney McLaughlin, meanwhile, broke her own world record in 400-meter hurdles with a time of 50.68 seconds. She hasn't lost the event since 2019 and has broken the record four times in two years.

American men also had big wins.

They swept the podium (won all three medals) in the 100-meter and 200-meter races and the shot put. In the 200-meter race on July 22, gold medalist Noah Lyles broke an American record that has stood since 1996.



Noah Lyles

US track legend Allyson Felix made a surprise appearance on July 23. She planned to retire after racing on July 15 but was asked to run in a preliminary of the women's 4 x 400-meter relay. She ran the team's fastest lap, then watched them take gold the next day. Team USA also performed well off the track. On July 22, Kara Winger won a silver in javelin, the team's first-ever medal in women's javelin at a World Championship.

There were plenty of standouts from other countries, too. Jamaica's Shericka Jackson won gold in the women's 200-meter and had the second fastest time in history. Nigeria's Tobi Amusan broke a world record in the 100-meter hurdles. Another notable winner was Britain's Jake Whiteman. He won the men's 1,500-meter as his father called the race for the stadium crowd.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

EXTREME SPORTS

At the Summer X Games in Vista, California, American BMX biker Garret Reynolds won his 15th X Games gold medal. He is now tied with legend Shaun White for the most golds in an X Games career. Other winners included Australian Kieran Woolley, age 18, who won gold in the Men's Skateboard Park event, and Britain's Sky Brown, age 14, who won the women's division in that event. It was her second X Games gold.



The South African soccer team

BASKETBALL

On July 20, the Chicago Sky became the first team to earn a spot in this year's Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) playoffs. They are the defending champions.

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

South Africa beat Morocco, 2-1, to win the Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WACON) on July 23. It is South Africa's first title after losing in four WACON finals. Hildah Magaia scored the team's two goals in the second half.



FUN FACT

The first women's professional baseball team was founded in 1867.



The Ball Girls
10U team

Girls' baseball teams play in nationals

From July 20 to July 24, the seventh annual Baseball for All national tournament was held in Mesa, Arizona. It is the largest all-girls baseball tournament in the US. More than 400 players, ages 6 to 16, from three countries competed on nearly 40 teams.

The national tournament is run by Baseball for All, a nonprofit organization created in 2010 by baseball pioneer Justine Siegel. One of her accomplishments is being the first woman to coach for a Major League Baseball organization. Since baseball has traditionally been played mostly by boys and men, girls are often told they can't play the game. Her mission is to provide opportunities for girls to play, coach, and lead in the sport. "Why wouldn't you want others to have a better experience than you did?" she has said.

Competitions were held in six divisions. Ball Girls Baseball, a club from California, dominated the tournament and had four championship teams. In the 16U division, they beat California's Oaks Blue, 6–2, in the finals. In the 12U Majors finals, the Ball Girls defeated the California Waves, 5–2, while the 12U AAA team beat the Georgia Peaches, 2–0. The 10U Ball Girls team defeated the Hurricanes, another team from California, in a 3–2 game. The Hurricanes were presented with the Hustle Award afterward.

The 14U division final featured a rematch of last year's game. By a score of 8–6, the undefeated California Waves beat Chaneyville, the defending champions from Illinois. In the 8U division, two teams from the Arizona Peaches played each other, with their Blue team winning.



COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: **Sandy Smith**

Team: **Wildcats (U10 girls lacrosse)**

"Coach Sandy is an awesome coach! She is always helping us with drills. She always makes me and my teammates laugh. If we are ever holding our lacrosse sticks wrong, she comes over to tell us proper position. Before a game she always gives us a good pep talk. My teammates and I love her so very much and hope to have her during our entire lacrosse career." Harper, 10, Connecticut



To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to hello@theweekjunior.com. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Kian Yari

AGE: 21 SPORT: SOCCER

TEAM: MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Kicking it off I'm from Manchester, England.

I started playing football (soccer) at around age 3 or 4. I was in the Premier League Academy (a development league) until I was 18. After that, you either get a professional contract or you don't, and I didn't get one. I decided to come to America and play at the college level. Having the academic side and the athletic side really interested me.

Major inspiration

Cristiano Ronaldo joined Manchester United when I was young. At the time, he was nowhere near the player he is today. That's happened because of hard work and dedication. He's a massive role model.

Having a ball My favorite thing about soccer is the freedom it gives me. I can push all my worries to the side and just enjoy playing with my friends.

Big honor Last December, I was put on the All-American team. I had a good season with eight assists and a few goals. I'd say being named an All-American is my greatest achievement.

Keeping cool I love playing in big high-pressure games. When I was younger, I would get overly nervous, but as I've grown older I've learned to embrace the pressure and let it motivate me.

Career goals I've got one more semester left to play, and then I'm going to try to play soccer professionally in America, whether that's with Major League Soccer or another league.

Best advice Fall in love with the process of working hard, being in a team environment, and having fun with it. That applies to everything in life.





DC League of Super-Pets

A new breed of heroes

In *DC League of Super-Pets*, Superman's dog recruits shelter pets to help save the world.

The latest comic book characters to become movie stars are not superhumans; they're superanimals. *DC League of Super-Pets*, which is now playing in theaters, follows a group of pets on a mission to save the world.

In the film, Krypto the Superdog (voiced by Dwayne Johnson) fights crime with Superman in the city of Metropolis. Like Superman, Krypto can fly and has x-ray vision and super strength. After a space rock lands in a pet shelter, the

animals that live there get powers. An evil guinea pig decides to use her new abilities to kidnap Superman and the rest of the Justice League (Batman, Wonder Woman, Aquaman, Cyborg, and Green Lantern). To rescue them, Krypto must teach the other shelter pets to master their super skills.

Director and co-writer Jared Stern told *The Week Junior* that the inspiration for the story came during a visit to a pet shelter. He saw cute kittens up for adoption in the front but then noticed older animals in the back that might

not attract as much attention. He looked at them and wondered, "What if they got superpowers?"

Pets have been part of the DC Comics universe for decades. Krypto first appeared in 1955's *Adventure Comics* Number 210. He is joined in the film by DC Comics pets Ace the Bat-Hound, Merton the turtle, and Chip the squirrel. There is also a new character, PB the potbellied pig.

Stern said Krypto is motivated by his tight bond with Superman. It helps him understand what it means to be a selfless hero. "That kind of unconditional love is something that we can learn from our pets," Stern said.



Jared Stern

3 famous pets

Royal pups

Queen Elizabeth of the UK, who is 96 years old, is known for her love of Pembroke Welsh Corgis. She has owned more than 30. All of them descended from her first Corgi, Susan.



The Queen with Susan

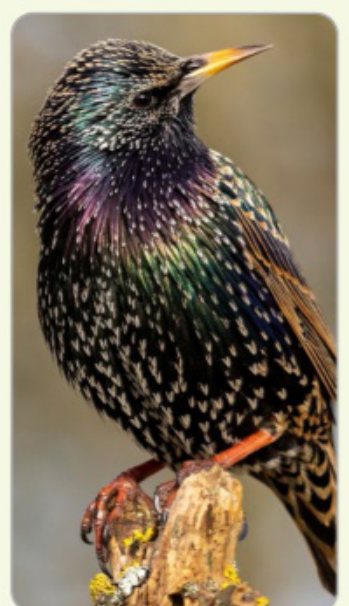
Fashionable feline

German fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld, who died in 2019, had a famous Birman cat, Choupette. Her name is a French nickname for a cute girl. She is on social media and was featured on some of his designs.



Beloved bird

The 18th-century classical music composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart had a European starling. He loved the bird's voice, which influenced and inspired his work during the three years they lived together.





WOW!
Industrial Light & Magic has been involved in seven of the world's 10 biggest hit films.



The Millennium Falcon from *Star Wars* in *Light & Magic*

The history of movie magic

Industrial Light & Magic (ILM), the world's leading visual effects company, is the focus of the new six-part documentary series *Light & Magic*. ILM was founded in 1975 by director George Lucas when he was working on the first *Star Wars* film. It forever changed the way movies are made. The series is now on Disney+.

Visual effects are images created by people such as artists, technicians, and software engineers that are made to look like part of real life. Over the years, ILM has worked on effects for more than 350 films, include the Marvel and *Jurassic Park* movies. ILM is also working on the upcoming *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series.

Light & Magic relies on interviews and vintage footage to tell ILM's story. The first two episodes are about making *Star Wars*. At the time, computer-generated imagery (CGI) did not exist, so members of the effects team did everything by hand. They reveal how they built models, filmed scenes, and even how dirty dishes inspired the shape of the Millennium Falcon starship.

Later episodes in the series center around visual effects innovations and ILM's move to CGI. The company continues to live by one idea: "Just because it hasn't been done doesn't mean it can't be done." As series director Lawrence Kasdan put it, ILM is "a house of geniuses."



THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST



Jurassic World Camp Cretaceous (Netflix)

The final season of the animated series about six teenagers trapped on an island with dinosaurs is out now. When Kenji's dad arrives to rescue the teens, his intentions prove to be bad. They must save the dinosaurs and find another way home.



Amber Brown (Apple TV+)

Based on a best-selling book series, this new show follows a middle schooler named Amber, who's been struggling with her parents' divorce and her best friend moving away. Expressing herself through art and a new friendship with a neighbor help her cope with life's challenges.



High School Musical: The Musical: The Series (Disney+)

The East High students are back for season three of the *High School Musical* films' spin-off. While at camp, the gang prepares for a production of *Frozen*. Guest stars include JoJo Siwa and Corbin Bleu, a star of the original *High School Musical*.



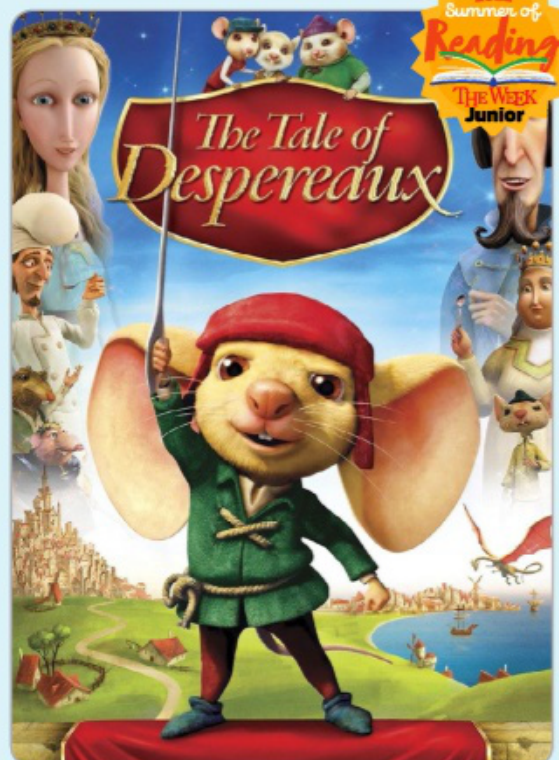
MOVIE NIGHT

For our Summer of Reading program, we're selecting a film based on popular books.

The Tale of Despereaux (2008) (Amazon Freevee and other platforms)



This animated film set in the kingdom of Dor is based on the 2003 book of the same name by Kate DiCamillo. The kingdom is a happy place until a rat named Roscuro accidentally falls into the queen's soup, which causes her to have a fatal heart attack. As a result, the devastated king bans soup and rats. Meanwhile, a tiny mouse named Despereaux is born. As he grows up, he dreams of becoming a knight, but when he breaks mouse rules by talking to the king's daughter, Princess Pea, he is banished to the rat world. There, he meets Roscuro and tries to help him apologize to the princess for his role in the queen's death. A series of events go wrong, and the princess ends up being kidnapped. Can Despereaux be the brave hero who rescues her?





On screen

WOW!
The Nishiyama Onsen Keiunkan, a resort in Japan, has been operating for more than 1,300 years.



Help a bear rebuild a resort

Bear and Breakfast is a new simulation game that takes place in the woods. It has just been released for the Nintendo Switch and PC, and it has features that are similar to the popular game Animal Crossing.

The game is about a bear who has set up a type of lodging known as a bed and breakfast (B&B). At a B&B, guests are given a bedroom as well as a meal in the mornings.

In Bear and Breakfast, gamers play as Hank, a bear who starts a B&B with his friends after they discover an abandoned building in the forest. It was part of the old Pinefall Resort, once a beautiful tourist attraction. Now it only attracts dust and spiderwebs. Hank and his pals decide to spruce up the place and get the resort running again.

The group doesn't know how to fix or run a hotel, but they slowly figure it out. A key piece is building out new rooms. There are 220 different items to choose from if you want to switch out furniture, decorations, appliances, or even toilets. As you start hosting guests, you'll find out what they like best.

In the end, Hank can develop a vacation paradise that has three huge buildings with at least 10 different types of rooms. The more you build, the more locals you'll meet and visitors you'll attract. As your business becomes more successful, you'll have to deal with issues such as supplying food and generating heat.

If that's not enough hard work, there's also a lingering mystery in the woods that starts to haunt the B&B. It's up to Hank to figure it out and bring back the Pinefall Resort for good.



Gus the possum



WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

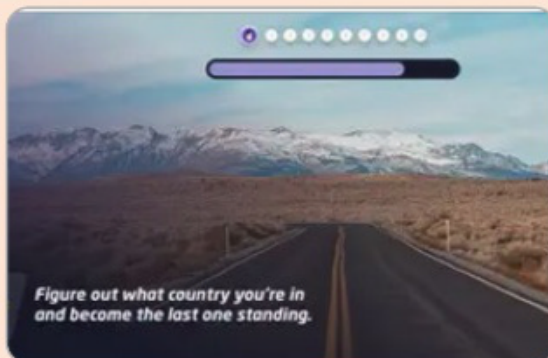
STARTING HARRY POTTER

startingharrypotter.com

Wizarding World, the official digital platform of the *Harry Potter* books, has launched this new online center just for people getting into the books for the first time. It offers a helpful guide on how to pronounce wizardry words and also features quidditch rules, interactive trivia, and more.



APP OF THE WEEK



GEOGUESSR

Apple App Store, Google Play

In the games on this app or on geoguessr.com, you virtually travel around the world and test your ability to recognize the surroundings. In one set of games, you end up anywhere, but you can also choose to focus on specific cities or countries. You can compete with friends, family, or other players.

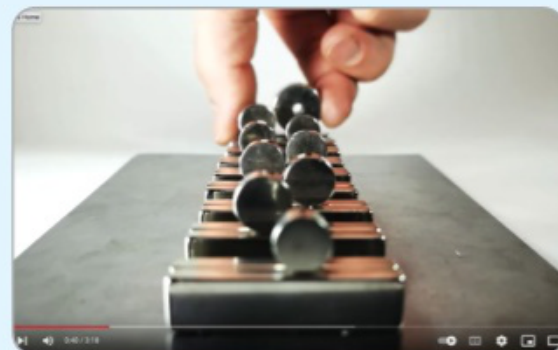


VIDEO OF THE WEEK

MAGNETIC VIBRATIONS

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Magnets

YouTube creators who play with and study magnets collaborated on this video. It highlights how the shifting of a single element can cause an entire design to move in surprising ways. You'll also see how placing magnets in different patterns can generate satisfying vibration sounds.





BOOK OF THE WEEK

Letters from Camp Season 3: The Last Summer

Co-created and written by Boco Haft, co-created by Jamie Lee Curtis

(Audible Original Podcast)

This audiobook podcast begins when Mookie, age 13, goes to sleepaway camp for the third summer in a row. She wants this year to be a fresh start. Instead of investigating mysteries at camp, she hopes to learn a sport and make new friends. But not long after she arrives, she receives an anonymous letter from someone asking for help. Mookie thinks Sue, the camp's director, wrote it.

Meanwhile, Sue has also received letters from someone demanding money in exchange for keeping a camp secret. With a big pool of suspects, Mookie uses her sleuthing skills to crack the case. It's a twist you probably won't see coming. You might recognize some of the voices of the characters in this audiobook. Actor Jacob Tremblay plays one of Mookie's new friends. Daniel Radcliffe, who played Harry Potter in the movie series, has a small part as well. There are eight episodes—one for each week Mookie is at camp. The story is set in 2007, and it contains many pop culture references from that time. Although you don't have to listen to the first two seasons to enjoy this one, it will be easier to follow the story if you do. *Ages 12 and up*



STORY STARTER

If you're interested in writing a story but aren't sure where to begin, use this inspiration from Jamie Lee Curtis. She has written the first sentence of a story below. Now write what comes next. It can be anything! Sometimes it's easier to be creative when you have a jumping-off point. Have fun!

"I can't believe it had happened again."

Ask the Author: Jamie Lee Curtis

Jamie Lee Curtis has written more than a dozen children's books. She is also an award-winning actor and producer. In *Letters from Camp Season 3*, Curtis voices the character of the camp director.



Did you go to sleepaway camp?

Yes, I did! I loved being able to have a fresh start and that my life didn't follow me to camp. I enjoyed trying new things and making new friends. Sleeping in a bunk bed was fun too!

Favorite camp activities?

Archery, horseback riding, and waterskiing.

Did you write letters home?

The only time I wrote home is when I got hurt or I was sick. I would write something like, "Dear Mom and Dad, I sprained my toe."



What's the best way to make s'mores?

I prefer the marshmallow warmed, but not burned, and placed on a single graham cracker with milk chocolate on top.

Do you have a favorite road trip memory?

Driving through the desert from Los Angeles to Palm Springs, California, with my family. We liked to stop and buy shakes made with dates.

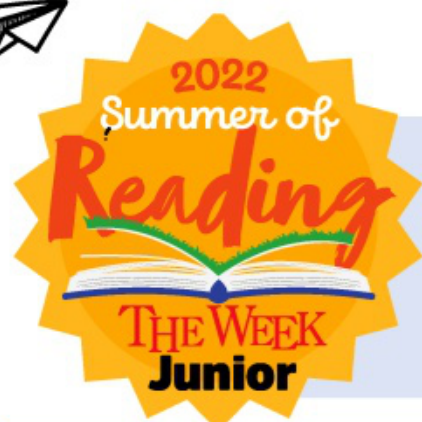


If you had to switch places with a young person today, who would you choose?

Greta Thunberg. She's incredibly cool because of her care for the environment and activism.

Is mystery your favorite genre?

No. I'm too impatient. I want to flip to the end and find out what happened. I like the historical fiction genre the most.



Our list of 50 Books Kids Love Most and details about entering our Summer of Reading sweepstakes can be found at theweekjunior.com/summerofreading. Happy reading!



How to...

WOW!

The Library of Congress in Washington, DC, is the largest library in the world. It has more than 41 million books.



Host a used book sale

Get neighbors excited about reading by selling books you no longer need.

If you and your family like reading, you may have many books in your home that you no longer need. One way to make room on your bookshelves is to host a used book sale and donate all or part of what you raise to a cause you care about. By selling books at a reduced cost, you also ensure that the books you loved will continue to be enjoyed by others. Here's how to get started.

Gather books

Let friends and family know you're looking for book donations. You can accept all books, or you can specify donations of certain books. For instance, you could do a used book sale of only picture books and first chapter books. Consider leaving a large box at your front door labeled "book donations" so friends and family can drop off their books anytime. (Be sure to bring the books inside that are dropped off each day.)

Choose a charity

Before you host your book sale, decide on the charity or cause you want to support. This way, you can explain to people who shop at your sale where their money is going. You may want to choose a local food pantry or your local library to donate to. Or you could donate to a national charity that works to make sure all people have access to books. Some examples are Room to Read, First Book, and We Need Diverse Books.

Get the word out

Create signs that share the date, time, and location of your sale and place them around your neighborhood and town. Be sure to include what types of books will be available and the charity the sale is supporting. You can also ask an adult to post about the sale on social media. On the morning of the event, make a larger sign or banner and place it in front of your home to attract people who walk or drive by.



Sort and set up

Begin saving and collecting large cardboard boxes. Label each one with a genre or type of book you'll be selling, such as Middle Grade Mysteries or Adult Historical Fiction. If you have a lot of children's books, you could separate them into boxes for Board Books and boxes for Picture Books. Label the boxes with how much each book in that section costs, or make a sign that lists general prices.

Run the sale

On the morning of the sale, move the boxes outside on folding tables. You'll also want to recruit some adults or friends to help you. For instance, kids could answer questions about children's books, and adults could be in charge of taking and managing the money. For any books that don't get sold, you may be able to donate them to your local library or community center.

4 more ways to support a cause

Try these additional ideas for raising money to help others.

Talent show

Have friends sign up to dance, play an instrument, do a magic trick, or perform in whatever way they would like. Set a time, date, and place, then sell tickets to attendees for a small fee.



Art show

Create a gallery of your own artwork, and ask friends to



donate theirs too. Then invite people to come to the show and bid on any art they would like to own.

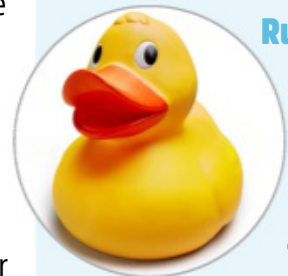
Lemonade stand

Set up a table in your front yard with a big batch of lemonade and a sign. This is a perfect activity for hot summer days!



Rubber duck race

Ask people to pay a small fee to enter the race. Meet at a



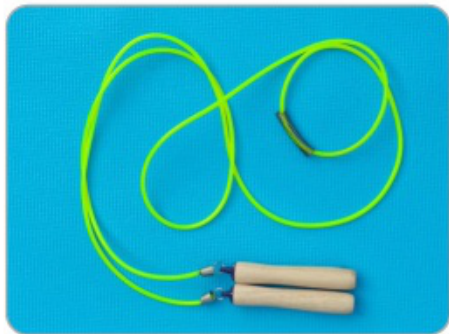
small pond or stream in your area and hand out rubber ducks with numbers on the bottom. Have everyone release their duck, and let them float downstream to a designated finish line. The person whose duck crosses the finish line wins.



IMPROVE YOUR JUMP ROPE SKILLS

Jumping rope is a fun way to get exercise and spend time outside. Here's how to do it.

- 1. Adjust the rope's length.** Hold one handle in each hand and then step on the middle of the rope and pull the handles up toward your shoulders. The bottom of the handles should be at your armpits. If the rope is too long, pull it through the handles and then knot it.
- 2. Get in position.** Hold the handles about 10 inches from both sides of your body, and let the rope hang in a U shape in front of you. Step over the rope so it's behind your feet.
- 3. Try jumping.** Start by practicing swinging the rope up and over your body. Make circles with your wrists to swing the rope, instead of moving your whole arms. Once you have that down, swing the rope over your head and jump over it one time. Got that? Practice more by setting a goal to jump rope five times in a row, then 10, or jump to a favorite rhyme or song.



DID YOU KNOW?

Panzanella is a type of salad that includes cubes of bread as an ingredient. The word "pane" means bread in Italian.



WARNING!

Ask an adult's permission before using a knife or the oven.

Make watermelon panzanella

Ingredients

- One 12-ounce loaf ciabatta bread, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 5 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- Salt and pepper
- 12 ounces cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 pound cubed watermelon
- 2 cucumbers, sliced
- 4 ounces feta cheese, cubed
- 3 tablespoons white balsamic vinegar
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh basil, plus more for garnish

Instructions

- 1.** Preheat oven to 400°F. Toss the bread cubes with 2 tablespoons olive oil and season with salt and pepper to taste. Spread cubes in a single layer on a baking sheet, then toast until golden and crisp, tossing once halfway through, about 10 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool 5 minutes.
- 2.** In a large serving bowl, combine the tomatoes, watermelon, cucumber, and feta cheese. Add the cooled bread cubes to the bowl and toss to combine.
- 3.** In a small bowl, whisk together the vinegar, 3 tablespoons of olive oil, and minced basil. Season the dressing with salt and pepper to taste. Drizzle dressing over the salad and toss well until everything is coated.
- 4.** Let the salad sit for at least 20 minutes so the bread can soak up all the flavors from the dressing and the juices of the watermelon, tomatoes, and cucumbers. Serve bowls of the panzanella with torn pieces of fresh basil on top. Makes 4 servings.



ECO TIP OF THE WEEK

CLEAN WITHOUT PAPER TOWELS

Grabbing a paper towel can be a convenient way to wipe up a mess or spill on the kitchen counter. But because paper towels are disposable, they add to the waste in landfills, which is harmful to the environment. Instead, try cleaning up with dishcloths and rags, which can be washed and reused. Keep clean dishcloths in one drawer. Whenever one gets dirty, place it in your family's laundry basket to be washed. Once clean, return it to the drawer. It's OK to keep paper towels on hand for times when they're necessary. To avoid overusing them, store them out of sight, such as in a cabinet under the kitchen sink.

Choose cloth towels when you can.





Puzzles



Crisscross

Each of these things associated with summer camp fits into this grid. Can you find where each one goes to complete the grid?

3 letters

DIP
HOT
SUN

4 letters

BOAT
POOL

5 letters

CANOE
HIKES
TRAIL

7 letters

COOKOUT
RAFTING

8 letters

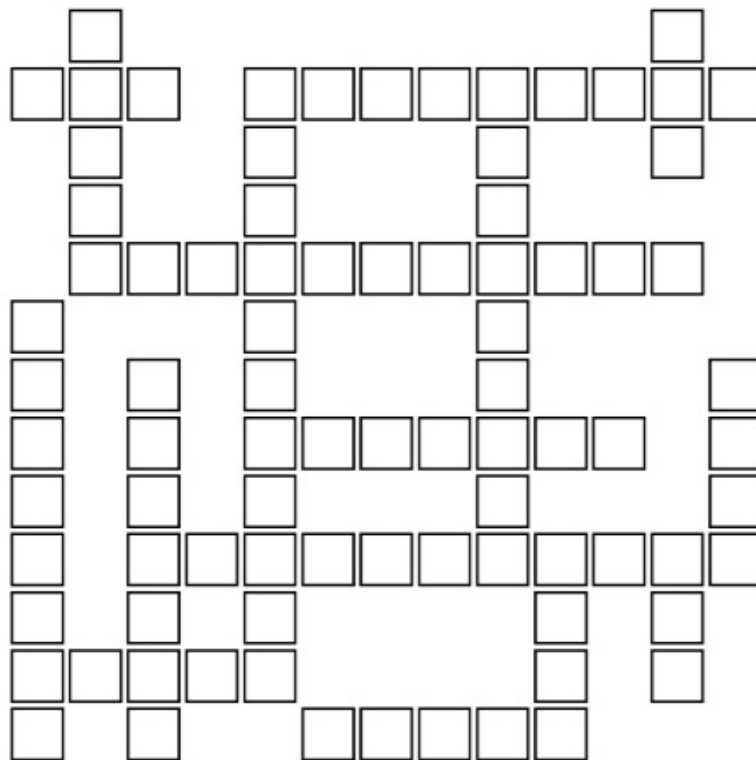
HOMESICK

9 letters

COUNSELOR
SING-ALONG

11 letters

CARE PACKAGE
SLEEPING BAG
TRADING POST



Take five

Five 5-letter words associated with puzzles (like the ones on this page) are hidden in this grid. For each one, the first letter is somewhere in the first column, the second is somewhere in the second column, and so on. Can you find all five? (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

E	O	U	S	K
L	L	A	I	E
S	R	L	E	C
C	H	G	N	E
T	O	I	V	S

SUDOKU

To complete the grid, place the numbers from 1 to 6 exactly once in each row, column, and 2x3 bold-lined box.

	3				2
		1		4	
			3		
		6			
	5		6		
4				5	

ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.

ALL THE SAME

Each answer contains the letters H-O-P. Those letters have been placed for you. Can you figure out the words?

1. Eating utensils in a Chinese restaurant

H O P

2. Chess piece that moves diagonally

H O P

3. Big burger at Burger King

H O P

4. How you feel when your fingers are crossed

H O P

5. Place to buy a gerbil or parakeet

H O P

Spot the difference

These two pictures of tropical birds appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?





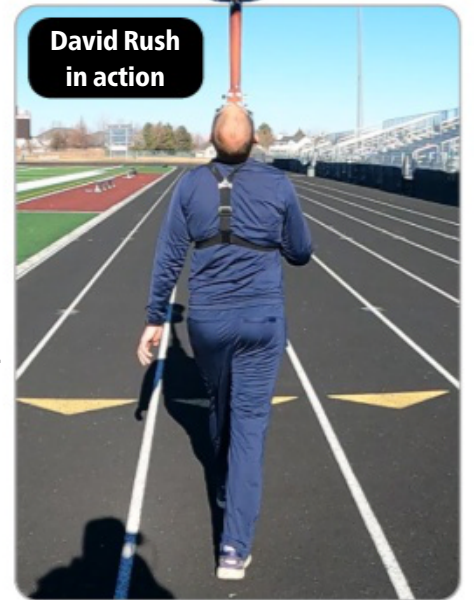
Rufus and his hedgehog friends

Hedgehog nests in rabbit hutch

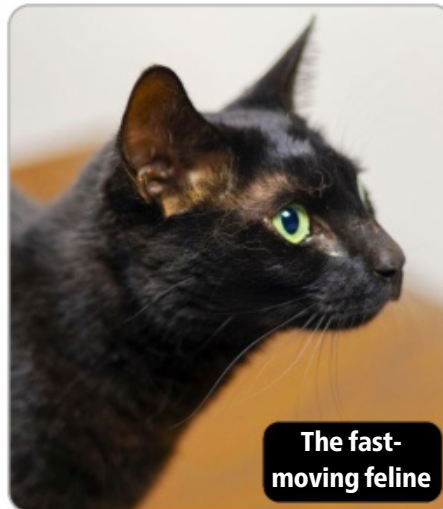
A hedgehog in the UK walked into a rabbit's hutch and made itself at home. The hedgehog built a nest from straw and then gave birth to four babies inside the hutch, which belonged to a pet rabbit named Rufus. According to Rufus's owner, Andrea Finbow, the hedgehog and the rabbit were "quite happy in each other's company." The hedgehog and her young soon moved on, but Finbow thinks she may come back from time to time to say hello to Rufus.

Quite the balancing act

David Rush, a man from Idaho, has achieved a Guinness World Records title for the longest distance walked while balancing a guitar on his chin. Rush walked for an hour and seven minutes before the guitar fell. He completed 13 laps around a track, for a total of 3.4 miles. Afterward, he had to lie on the ground to recover from the effort. Rush has been breaking records to promote the value of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education.



David Rush in action



The fast-moving feline

A fur-tunate finding

A cat named Rowdy has been caught at an airport after three weeks on the run. When Rowdy and her family landed in Boston, Massachusetts, after a flight from Germany, she escaped from her cage, setting off a massive search across the airport. Luckily, she was found safe and sound and will return home. "She looks great [and] is happy to be with people," her owner posted on Facebook.

Real OR fake?



Could hair mats help the environment?

Human hair mops up oil spills

A hair stylist in the UK is using mats made from her customers' hair to fight oil spills around the world. Adele Williams creates the mats using leftover hair she sweeps up from the floor of her salon, putting it in a machine that weaves it into a mat. She then donates the mats to a charity, which uses them to clean up oil spills that harm the environment. So what do you think? Is it the truth, or is it a hair-brained lie?*



Fun under the sea

Diving into an underwater festival

In Florida, a recent music festival took place in a most unusual location: underwater. The Beatles' song "Yellow Submarine" and other ocean-themed hits played through waterproof speakers hanging from boats as hundreds of divers and snorkelers listened below. Many of the attendees dressed up as sea creatures or mermaids. The event was held at Looe Key Reef, one of the only living coral barrier reefs in the US. Its purpose—besides being fun—was to inspire people to protect the reefs.

*Real! Human hair can soak up many times its own weight in oil. Williams has donated the hair to a nonprofit called Matter of Trust, which cleans up oil spills. The hair has also been used to filter water from drains after storms.



Your turn

Editor's note

Several years ago, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to meet Jamie Lee Curtis (p23). She was famous for acting in numerous films and was also becoming well known for writing children's books. I was so excited to meet her! She was extremely nice and so much fun to talk to. Now I am fortunate again because she is participating in *The Week Junior's* Summer of Reading program as one of our Author Ambassadors. In this issue, you can read a review of the new season of her audiobook podcast, a Q&A with her, and a writing prompt she provided to help you with your own storytelling. Thank you, Jamie Lee! Thank you, also, to our other Author Ambassadors—Soman Chainani, Chris Grabenstein, Dwayne Reed, and Jo Rioux—who were featured in previous issues this summer. We greatly appreciate all of them!

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief



Creating a Little Free Library

“Author Robert Louis Stevenson once wrote, ‘I kept always two books in my pocket, one to read, one to write in.’ We both read and write books on a daily basis. They consume our lives in the best possible way. Our love of reading led us to want to build a Little Free Library to share our books. We built our library with the help of our parents and chose to paint it blue and yellow to show support for the Ukrainian people. Even though we are in a very rural area, we have had several visitors. Our library has a wide variety of books. We also made special bookmarks that people can take and color on.”



Alex (left), 13, and Gwendolyn, 11, Wisconsin

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.

JOKE OF THE WEEK
Why did the boy read inside his wardrobe?
Narnia business!

CHARITY OF THE WEEK



Smile Train

This organization helps fund and train medical professionals to provide free surgery to babies born with cleft, a condition in which there is a hole between a newborn's lip and nose or on the roof of their mouth, making breathing and speaking difficult. Smile Train, which also provides speech therapy and other assistance, has cared for more than 1.5 million children.

Find out more at smiletrain.org.



Win free books and more!



There is still plenty of time to participate in our Summer of Reading sweepstakes. Now through August 19, all you have to do is read three books of your choice and fill out a form. Ask an adult to go to theweekjunior.com/summerofreading to get the form and then have them

upload it to tinyurl.com/TWJUS-readingsweeps. You will be entered in our sweepstakes for a chance to win books and a personal video call with one of our Author Ambassadors. Five winners will be drawn at random. Complete rules are at theweekjunior.com/terms.



THE WEEK
Junior

IT'S YOUR TURN

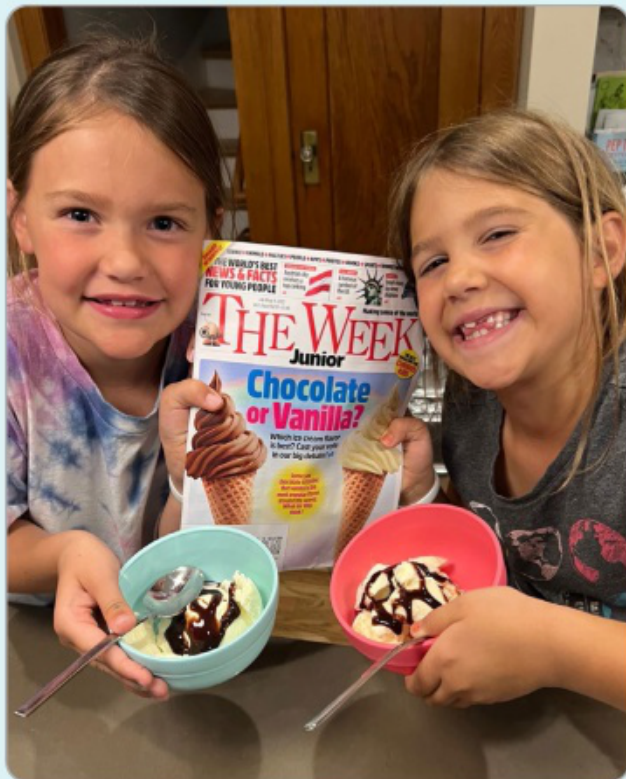
Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.

Your turn



YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"My sister and I like vanilla with chocolate syrup on top!" **Juliette, 8,** and **Evangeline, 6,** Illinois

"I brought the magazine on a recent trip to Mexico! No better place to read it than overlooking the Pacific Ocean!" **North, 10,** Wisconsin



"I really enjoyed my sunshine waffle lunch bowl. It brightens my day. Simply delish!" **Zoie, 10,** Virginia

POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjunior on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7–12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: If you had a telescope that could see into space, what would you want to view first?

"Saturn, because of its beautiful and vibrant rings!"

"A planet that might have alien life!"

"The Moon—it has craters and goes through phases."

"Pluto, because it's such a mystery."

"Other galaxies"

In the big debate, we asked: Should kids run errands alone?

"No, they might not understand what to get."

"I think they should if they are around the age of 12."

"They could have their parents waiting in the car."

"It depends on what age they are."

Now tell us: What is your favorite ride at a water park and why?

Teacher OF THE WEEK



Teacher's Name: **Mr. Aguilar**

School: **Robert Eagle Staff Middle School**

"Mr. Aguilar is the band teacher at my school. I play saxophone in his symphonic, jazz, and marching bands. He gives us more opportunities to play than many high schools get. We've performed in parades and even at a half-time show for a professional basketball game! He gives us challenges to work. I admire Mr. Aguilar because he works really hard for our band."

Fenix, 12, Washington

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com.



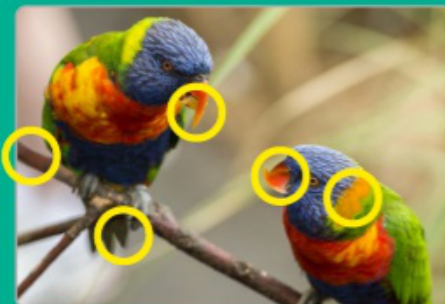
Puzzle answers (from page 26)

5	3	4	1	6	2
6	2	1	5	4	3
2	4	5	3	1	6
3	1	6	4	2	5
1	5	2	6	3	4
4	6	3	2	5	1

Take five
erase
logic
solve
clues
think

All the same
1. chopsticks
2. bishop
3. Whopper
4. hopeful
5. pet shop

H
DIP COUNSELOR
K A I T
E R N
SLEEPING BAG
H P A
O R A L B
M A COOKOUT O
E F K N A
S TRADING POST
I I G O U N
C ANOE T R A I L
K G



Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 c) Guitar 2 False. She is the 24th. 3 Fantastic giant tortoise 4 b) 220 5 a) Hurdles
6 Industrial Light and Magic 7 False. It is the third. 8 b) 1955 9 Whiskers 10 True
11 Boston Red Sox 12 b) Madrid 13 True 14 b) Monarch 15 True

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.



Quiz of the week

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 An Idaho man set a world record for walking the longest distance while balancing what instrument on his chin?

a) Flute b) Violin c) Guitar

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 True or false? Ada Limón has been named the 20th US poet laureate.

True ☐ False ☐

3 A Galapagos Islands tortoise named Fernanda belongs to what species that was thought to be extinct?

4 In the video game Bear and Breakfast, how many different items are there to decorate rooms with?

a) 180 b) 220 c) 260

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

5 Track and field athlete Sydney McLaughlin broke her own world record in what event at the World Athletics Championships?

a) Hurdles b) Long jump c) Javelin

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

6 What company did George Lucas start while working on the first *Star Wars* movie?

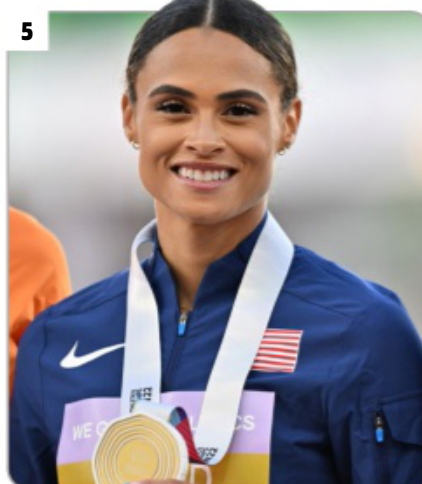
7 True or false? China is the second country to build its own space station.

True ☐ False ☐

8 In what year did Krypto the Superdog first appear in comics?

a) 1945 b) 1955 c) 1965

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐



ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.



9 What body part helps seals track their prey in deep, dark waters?

10 True or false? Droupadi Murmu is India's first tribal president.

True ☐ False ☐

11 New Baseball Hall of Fame member David Ortiz won three World Series titles with which team?

12 Plans were released for a new park that will help lower temperatures in what city in Spain?

a) Barcelona

b) Madrid

c) Sevilla

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

13 True or false? *Harry Potter* actor Daniel Radcliffe has a small voice role in the audiobook podcast *Letters from Camp Season 3*.

True ☐ False ☐

14 What species of butterfly was recently declared endangered?

a) Blue morpho

b) Monarch

c) Viceroy

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

15 True or false? The world's steepest water slide, called the Kilimanjaro, is located in Brazil.

True ☐ False ☐

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**DESERT
DWELLER**

Web-footed geckos live mainly in an African desert. Their large eyes help them spot prey, such as crickets and small spiders.